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Message Text

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ORIGIN IO-03

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /004 R

66619
DRAFTED BY:IO/SCI:LNCAVANAUGH
APPROVED BY:IO/SCT:LNCAVANAUGH
---------- 076758
R 041607Z AUG 75
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO USMISSION IAEA VIENNA

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 183228

FOLLOWING REPEAT BUCHAREST 3660 ACTION SECSTATE INFO HELSINKI
30 JUL 75

QUOTE

C O N F I D E N T I A L BUCHAREST 3660

HELSINKIFOR PRESIDENTIAL PARTY

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: TECH, RO, OVIP (FORD , GERALD R.)
SUBJECT: US-ROMANIAN COOPERATION IN NUCLEAR ENERGY IN CONTEXT
OF PRESIDENTIAL VISIT

REF: (A) BUCH 3557 (B) BUCH 3500 (C) BUCH 2173

1. SUMMARY: SCNE VICE PRESIDENT RODEANU AND NUCLEAR REGULATORY
CHIEF ALEXANDRU OLARIU MET WITH SCIATT JULY 28 FOR DETAILED
WRAP-UP DISCUSSION OF GOR'S INTEREST IN OBTAINING STATEMENT
OF INTENT ON "BILATERAL COOPERATION AGREEMENT IN THE NUCLEAR
FIELD" DURING FORTHCOMING PRESIDENTIAL TALKS (REF A). RODEANU
SAID THE TOPIC WOULD BE RAISED IN HEAD-TO-HEAD TALKS, AND WOULD
BEAR ON COMMERCIAL AND INDUSTRIAL COOPERATION,
NOT SCIENTIFIC R&D. RODEANU SAID "INDEPENDENCE" AND "ECONOMIC
DIVERSITY" WERE ROMANIA'S GOALS IN ENERGY DEVELOPMENT. WHILE
NOT COMMITTED EXCLUSIVELY TO ANY ONE TECHNOLOGY. GOR CONTINUES
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TO FAVOR HEAVY WATER REACTORS AND NATURAL URANIUM FUEL AND HAS
BEEN NEGOTIATING WITH CANADIAN SUBSIDIARIES OF US FIRMS. TEN
NUCLEAR POWER SITES OF THIS TYPE AVERAGING 600 MEW ARE PLANNED
BY 1990. END SUMMARY.

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2. RODEANU REVIEWED BACKGROUND, AS KNOWN TO EMBASSY AND DEPARTMENT, OF DISCUSSIONS BOTH WITH CANADIANS AND ERDA ON GOR ACQUISITION OF NUCLEAR TECHNOLOGY FROM CANADIAN-BASED US AFFILIATES. OF POSSIBLE OPTIONS, ROMANIA STRONGLY FAVORS DIRECT GOR/US UMBRELLA AGREEMENT TO ENSURE TRANSFER OF NUCLEAR TECHNOLOGY. RODEANU SPECIFICALLY SAID CEAUSESEU WILL SEEK PRESIDENT FORD'S "AGREEMENT IN PRINCIPLE" TO US/GOR BILATERAL, AND APP-ROPRIATE STATMENT OF INTENT IN POST VISIT COMMUNIQUE.

3. ONCE NUCLEAR BILATERAL AGREEMENT ACHIEVED, GOR WOULDSEEK CONTRACTS WITH VARIOUS FIRMS FOR PURCHASE, MANUFACTURE, AND THIRD-COUNTRY MARKETING OF FINISHED EQUIPMENT, COMPONENTS, AND SOME MANUFACTURING TECHNOLOGY. RODEANU DID NOT EXCLUDE SALES TO CEMA COUNTRIES OR ANY OTHERS, AGAIN STRESSING THAT ECONOMIC DIVERSITY WAS ESSENTIAL TO ROMANIAN INDEPENDENCE. AS ILLUSTRATION HE CITED GOR CONTRACT WITH FINNISH CONSORTIUM FOR PURCHASE OF WESTINGHOUSE ICE-CONDENSOR SYSTEM ADAPTABLE TO SOVIET 440 MEM LIGHT WATER REACTOR.

4. IN CONCLUSION, RODEANU LISTED FOLLOWING EXAMPLES OF SPECIFIC NUCLEAR TECHNOLOGIES WHICH GOR WISHES TO PURCHASE WHOLE OR IN PART FOMR US OR CANADIA/US FIRMS.
FROM US
A) 645 MEM STEAM TURBINE AND GENERATOR (GE)
B) HEAVY WATER MANUFACTURING PLANT, INCLUDING TOWERES, MANU-FACTURING TECHNIQUES AND KNOW-HOW (CHICAGO BRIDGE AND IRON)
C) SIEVE TRAYS FOR INSTALLATION IN HEAVY WATER PLANT TOWERS (UNION CARBIDE)
D) COMPUTERS FOR NUCLEAR THERMAL PLANTS. THESE INCLUDE UNSPEC-IFIED ON-LINE PROCESS CONTROL COMPUTERS, AND LARGER UNITS FOR R&D WORK SUCH AS IBM 370/158; CDC CYBER 173; UNIVAC 1110/20
E) HIGH TEMPERATURE REACTOR FOR POWERE GENERATION AND AS THERMAL SOURCE FOR HIGH TEMPERATURE PROCESSES IN CHEMICAL INDUSTRY

FROM CANADA
A) STEAM GENERATOR FOR 600 MEW CANDU PHW NUCLEAR POWER PLANT
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(BABCOCK WILCOX)
B) HEAVY WATER PUMPS FOR PRIMARY COOLANT SYSTEM, CANDU TYPE (BYRON JACKSON)
C) NATURAL URANIUM FUEL ELEMENTS, INDLUDING MANUFACTURING KNOW-HOW AND SPECIFIC EQUIPMENT USED IN FUEL ELEMENT FABRIC-ATION (GE/CANADIAN WESTINGHOUSE)
D) SPECIAL METALS AND ALLOYS USED IN EQUIPMENT AND COMPONENT MANUFACTURING. NEITHER THE METALS NOR THE SUPPLIERS WERE IDENTIFIED.

5. RODEANU AND OLARIU AGAIN REFERRED TO PROFESSOR URSU'S ULTIMATE GOAL OF OVERLAPPING ENERGY AGREEMENTS BETWEEN SCNE/ERDA IN NUCLEAR R&D; SCNE/NRC IN SAFETY AND REGULATORY

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ACTIVITIES; AND AN OVERALL NON-NUCLEAR ENERGY AGREEMENT BETWEEN NCST AND ERDA. THESE ITEMS LIKELY WOULD BE DEFERRED UNTIL PROPOSED ERDA/NRC JOINT DELEGATION VISIT, THOUGH MIGHT BE DISCUSSED AT ADVISROY LEVEL DURING PRESIDENTIAL VISIT.

6. IN SEPARATE CONVERSATION, NCST SPECIAL ADVISOR ION MANZATU TOLD SCIATT THAT GOR HAD FINALIZED LONG-TERM ENERGY INVESTMENT DECISIONS (15 YEARS) LAST MONTH, AND THAT SPECIFICS COVERED PARAS 3 AND 4 ABOVE HAVE NOT BEEN RELEASABLE UNTIL NOW. MANZATU SAID THESE INVESTMENT DECISIONS HAD SIGNIFICANT IMPLICATIONS FOR BILATERAL RELATIONS, AND THAT GOR CONSIDERED RECEPTIVE AMERICAN ATTITUDE ON NUCLEAR AGREEMENT OF UTMOST IMPORTANCE.

7. EMBASSY REQUESTS CONFIRMATION OF ERDA/NRC DELEGATION'S PREFERENCE FOR TALKS IN BUCHAREST EITHER BEFORE MID-AUGUST OR AFTER OCOTBER FIRST, AND URGENT GUIDELINES ON MAIN ISSUE OF NUCLEAR BILATERAL AGREEMENT.
BARNES UNQUOTE INGERSOLL

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 26 AUG 1999
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: SCIENTIFIC COOPERATION, NUCLEAR RESEARCH, NUCLEAR REACTORS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 04 AUG 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: WorrelSW
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975STATE183228
Document Source: ADS
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter:
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: 11652 GDS
Errors: n/a
Film Number: D750269-0613
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750899/baaaarbf.tel
Line Count: 131
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, TEXT ON MICROFILM
Office: ORIGIN IO
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: WorrelSW
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 07 APR 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <07 APR 2003 by IzenbeI0>; APPROVED <09 OCT 2003 by WorrelSW>
Review Markings:

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US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
06 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: n/a
TAGS: TECH, OVIP, ENRG, RO, US, (FORD, GERALD R)
To: IAEA VIENNA
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006